



City Councilmember
Carl DeMaio

News Release

DeMaio Urges Rejection of Trash Tax Proposal

Says Focus Should Be on Elimination of Wasteful Spending at City Hall

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SAN DIEGO –City Councilmember Carl DeMaio is asking the City Council to formally reject a San Diego County Grand Jury suggestion that the city impose a monthly trash tax on residents.

“Instead of imposing a garbage tax, our focus should be on a different kind of waste – government waste of existing tax dollars,” DeMaio commented. “We should focus our efforts back on implementing cost saving reforms rather than imposing additional tax and fee burdens on our residents.”

The San Diego County Grand Jury occasionally weighs in with its perspective on policy issues facing government entities in our region. In its latest report “Time for Repeal of The People’s Ordinance” the Grand Jury suggests charging residents a monthly fee for trash service as one solution to the city’s ongoing financial crisis.

As the city is required to respond to this report within 90 days, DeMaio is urging his colleagues adopt a formal response drafted by him that rejects the trash tax.

As an alternative to charging residents more (above their baseline property taxes) for trash collection, the response suggested by DeMaio offers reforms like managed competition to save taxpayers millions of dollars annually.

“At a time when San Diegans are struggling financially to make ends meet the City of San Diego needs to make further progress in correcting inefficiencies and addressing high labor costs. Any suggestion of raising taxes and fees should be dismissed,” noted DeMaio.

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